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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

19 October 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Canoga Park – LA Firefighters Respond to Fire at Marijuana Grow Operation

(U) Los Angeles Firefighters and paramedics responded to a structure fire at a one-story commercial building on Monday afternoon. The 50 foot-by-100-foot building appears to be home to a marijuana growth operation. Nearby vehicles and civilians were threatened by the fire and explosions within the building, and one civilian was assessed for burn injuries.

SOURCE: 18 October 2021, CBS Los Angeles

(U) Sacramento – Statewide Marijuana Busts Surge as Agencies Target Illicit Growers

(U) Four-years after marijuana became legal in California for adult recreational use, state law enforcement officials have doubled the amount of illicit marijuana plants seized and eradicated in an annual campaign. California Attorney General Rob Bonta annuanced that the California Department of Justice's annual Campaign Against Marijuana Planting program had eradicated nearly 1.2 million illegally cultivated cannabis plants this year, up from 614,267 plants seized in 2018.

SOURCE: 18 October 2021, Sacramento Bee

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois - Chicago Student Convicted of Helping ISIS Spread Propaganda on Social Media

(U) Chicago – A DePaul University student in Chicago was convicted on Monday of assisting the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) by writing computer code to help the group more effectively distribute propaganda on social media channels, media reported. The student was convicted on one count of attempting to provide material support and resources to a foreign terrorist organization. Prosecutors say the student designed a process that uses a computer script to make ISIS propaganda more conveniently accessed and disseminated by users on a social media platform.

SOURCE: 18 October 2021, CBS Chicago

(U) Louisiana - One Dead, Seven Hurt in Shooting at Grambling State University

(U) Grambling – Officials at Grambling State University have blamed "outsiders" for a recent spate of violence on campus, including a shooting that left one person dead and seven others wounded Sunday. The shooting happened around 1 a.m. Sunday on the campus quad, according to officials. The person who died wasn't enrolled at the school, and the one victim who is a student was treated for injuries that were not life-threatening. Officials have not released the identities of the victims or a potential suspect. SOURCE: 18 October 2021, KTBS

(U) New York - Man Pleads Guilty to Attempting to Provide Material Support to ISIS, Al-Nusra Front

(U) Brooklyn – An Illinois man pleaded guilty today to attempting to provide material support to designated foreign terrorist organizations, ISIS and Al-Nusra Front (ANF). According to court documents, Dilshod Khusanov, 36, of Chicago, encouraged individuals to travel to Syria to wage violent jihad in 2014 and 2015.

SOURCE: 18 October 2021, US DOJ

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Iraq – Iraqi Forces Arrest Suspect for 2016 Karrada Bombing in 'Complex Intelligence Operation' (U) Baghdad – Iraq announced on Monday that it has arrested a suspect believed to be responsible for a 2016 bombing in a Baghdad shopping center that killed nearly 300 people and wounded 250. The attack, claimed by ISIS, was the deadliest in the country since the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. "Five-years after the terrorist bombing of Karrada, our brave forces succeeded in capturing the terrorist Ghazwan al-Zobai in a complex intelligence operation outside the country," Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi said. SOURCE: 18 October 2021, MEE

(U) Lebanon – Hezbollah Leader Declares His Group has 100,000 Fighters

(U) Beirut – Lebanon's Hezbollah leader declared for the first time on Monday that the militant group has 100,000 trained fighters. His speech appeared to be meant as a deterrent to domestic foes following the nation's worst internal violence in years. Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah disclosed the size of the Shiite group's militant arm in his first speech since seven people were killed in gun battles on the streets of Beirut on Thursday, the worst street violence the city has seen in years. SOURCE: 18 October 2021, AP

(U) Nigeria – Gunmen Kill At Least 30 People at a Weekly Market

(U) Goronyo – Gunmen killed at least 30 people in an attack in Goronyo in northern Nigeria's Sokoto state, the governor's office said on Monday. The assault began at a weekly market in Goronyo on Sunday and continued into Monday morning, he said in a statement. A local trader said that there were 60 bodies at Goronyo General Hospital mortuary, while others sustained injuries while escaping. SOURCE: 18 October 2021, Today

(U) Syria – Syrian Democratic Forces Arrests 22 ISIS Fighters in Deir Al-Zor Countryside

(U) Deir al-Zor – The Syrian Democratic Forces announced on Monday that special forces arrested 22 suspects with alleged links to ISIS in the Deir al-Zor countryside, with support from the US-led coalition. Weapons and equipment were also seized. Most of ISIS's activities occur in the Deir al-Zor province that has been plagued by assassinations, tribal tensions, and terrorist activities. SOURCE: 18 October 2021, Kurdistan24

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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